

Operation Smile consists of reconstructive surgeons, professional nurses and concerned citizens who have dedicated themselves to providing relief for children suffering from congenital and acquired deformities.

Through a spirit of selflessness, Dr. Moore has given both this heart and time to Operation Smile. He has served as the President of the chapter's local board and is currently its medical director.

Mr. President, Dr. Moore's dedication is a great source of pride, not only for Pennsylvania, but for the United States. I hope my colleagues will join with me in honoring Dr. Moore for his spirit of community and faithful service.●

AMTRAK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise as a strong supporter of Amtrak, recognizing the tremendous potential that advanced rail-passenger technology can play in developing our nation's 21st Century economy.

Amtrak has a distinct and important relationship with the state of Illinois. Chicago is the headquarters of one of Amtrak's three Strategic Business Units and the Intercity Business Unit, which manages all passenger trains in America with the exception of the Northeast Corridor and West Coast services. Downtown Chicago is also home to one of the three nationwide Reservation Call Centers. Amtrak also operates over forty trains per day in Illinois, with a total ridership in excess of 2.5 million passengers. Illinois has first-hand experience with Amtrak's current services and recognizes its future potential.

The Congress has also understood Amtrak's potential. In last year's Taxpayer Relief Act, the Senate and House provided \$2.3 billion in Amtrak capital investment to make our federally owned rail passenger carrier a strong contributor to our nation's mobility. Congress also worked diligently to enact the Amtrak Reform and Accountability Act of 1997. With the authority conferred on it by this legislation, Amtrak now has the ability to undertake the organizational restructuring and operational fine-tuning necessary to realize the full benefits promised by the \$2.3 billion in capital funding.

An integral component of the reform envisioned by this legislation was the timely selection and seating of an "Amtrak Reform Board" comprised of directors with fresh ideas and experience in dealing with the business world. We must ensure that the Administration moves swiftly enough to avoid the consequences of failing to appoint a new Amtrak Reform Board by the statutory deadline, July 1, 1998. Quick action on this matter will allow Amtrak to maintain the authorization mandated in the law signed last December.

I am hopeful that the President will move quickly to appoint the seven di-

rectors required under the new law. These appointments should include professionals experienced in the leasing and financing of hundreds of millions of dollars worth of equipment and people familiar with debt rescheduling and refinancing, which are among tasks tailored to Amtrak's business needs.

I would also encourage the Administration to make certain that these appointments fairly represent the various regions of the country, and Illinois is certainly deserving of such representation. Amtrak provides service to over thirty cities in Illinois. In addition, Amtrak employs some 2,200 Illinois residents, with earnings totaling over \$50 million per year. Regional representation will also ensure that the diverse interests of our regional economies can be brought to the table for equitable decision making in the Amtrak Boardroom.

Mr. President, I hope my colleagues who support Amtrak will join me in encouraging the Administration to submit qualified candidates, women and men with the knowledge and experience required to strengthen our national system of passenger transportation, to the Senate as soon as possible.●

RECOGNITION OF THE LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR YOUTH

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to an exemplary program in Missouri, the Leadership Training Institute for Youth (LTI). Every year at Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Missouri this leadership camp is held for youth from all over America. This camp inspires youth to work toward their goals and to achieve personal excellence.

With the leadership of Dr. Pat Briney, the attendees learn leadership skills through Christian values. LTI helps to guide youth through their most confusing years and teaches them coping mechanisms for future problems.

LTI represents the kind of spirit, honor and integrity that belong with today's youth leaders. I commend LTI staff and participants for their energy and faith to Christian values and hope they continue their important mission for years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE FRANK CAPRIO

● Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Frank Caprio of Providence, Rhode Island, who will be honored at the 37th Annual Verrazzano Day Banquet this Saturday.

A respected and admired Rhode Islander, Frank Caprio was born in Providence in 1936, the son of immigrants. His father peddled produce and delivered milk in the Federal Hill neighborhood, while his beloved mother cared for Frank, his two brothers, Antonio Jr. and Joseph, and dedicated herself to her Church and community.

Frank Caprio epitomizes the American dream. From his humble beginnings, he is today a respected lawyer, successful businessman, and Chief Judge of the Providence Municipal Court. At Central High School he was an all-state wrestler who was encouraged to learn a trade, but he aspired to attain a college education. And he did. He worked his way through Providence College, earning his Bachelor of Arts. He later earned his education certificate from Rhode Island College.

Frank taught American government by day and attended Suffolk Law School at night. Inspired by President Kennedy, he ran for Providence City Council in 1962 and served for eight years. He was a delegate to the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention in 1973, and he has been elected a delegate to the Democratic National Convention five times.

Frank Caprio has practiced law for more than 30 years and has a remarkably diverse practice. He has served as special counsel to Cookson America, a fortune 500 corporation, and as legal counsel to the Providence Redevelopment Agency and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation. But perhaps Frank's most revered clients are neighbors and friends, many of humble means, who seek out Frank as their defender, advocate, and voice. They cherish his friendship and offer trust in return, which is a wonderful tribute to Frank and a testament to the way he has led his life.

Through initiative, hard work and tireless energy, Frank has attained much success in business. He is a principal owner of the Coast Guard House, a historic waterfront restaurant in Narragansett and another popular restaurant, Casey's, in Wakefield. In addition to his success as a restaurateur, Frank is a principal owner of Cherry Hill Housing in Johnston.

Despite all of his success in law, government, and business, Frank has always understood the importance of community and public service. He serves on the board of Federal Hill House and as a volunteer at Nickerson House. He is a fellow of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, and is a member of both the Bishop's Council and the State Board of Governors for Higher Education.

In honor of his own father, he established the Antonio "Tup" Caprio Scholarship at Suffolk University, and is the 1997-1998 Chairman of the Providence College Alumni Fund. He holds an Honorary Doctor of Law Degree from Suffolk and has been recognized by countless organizations for his spirit of community and his humanitarian efforts.

Mr. President, I am pleased today to salute Frank Caprio on receiving the prestigious Annual Verrazzano Day award, and I extend best wishes to Frank, his wife, Joyce, and their wonderful family on this momentous occasion.●